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9 June 1956

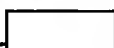
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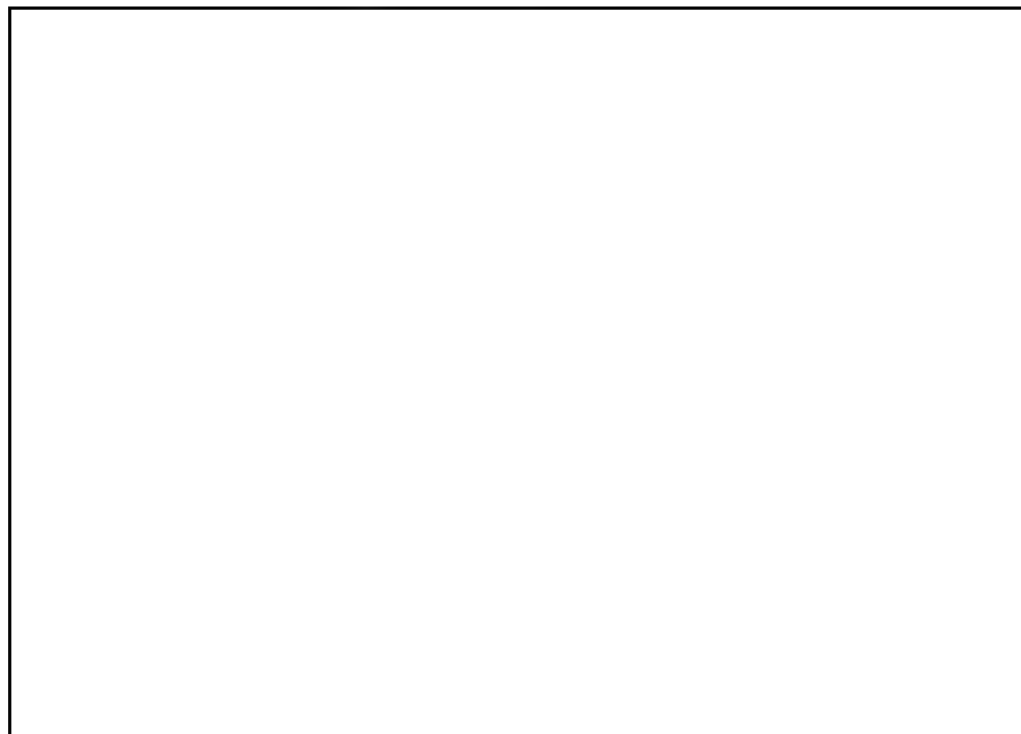
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THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION

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1. SHEPILOV'S IMPENDING VISIT TO EGYPT

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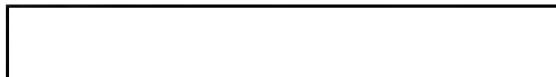
Soviet foreign minister Shepilov's visit to Cairo on 18 June probably is intended by Moscow as a reaffirmation of Soviet support for the Arabs. Shepilov will also visit Syria.

Shepilov may press for Egyptian acceptance of the Soviet offer to finance the Aswan High Dam.

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25X1A 2. BOHLEN COMMENTS ON TITO VISIT TO MOSCOW

 Ambassador Bohlen reports that Tito during his visit has maintained the posture of a chief of state of an independent country and has refrained in his public statements from references to party matters. The Soviet leaders have treated this as a state-to-state visit in their public statements. At the negotiating table, however, Khrushchev, as party first secretary, has been seated as head of the delegation rather than Bulganin as chief of government.

A member of the Yugoslav delegation told Bohlen the Yugoslavs, although finding the Soviet leaders "dogmatic," had been impressed by their frankness, particularly in discussing their past mistakes. He told Bohlen that the two countries were very close on the German question, both favoring a rapprochement between the two German states, which he believed would be facilitated by some changes in the East German structure. He implied that in the Moscow talks so far there had been somewhat greater divergencies on certain other questions, possibly, according to Bohlen, the question of Satellite relations.

Bohlen notes that Shepilov has not figured prominently in the visit and is obviously outside the inner group. In view of Molotov's participation in the talks, Bohlen is becoming convinced that Molotov was replaced as foreign minister by common agreement or at his own request. He may have wished to avoid playing before Tito the role of mere technician which he as foreign minister has played in high-level negotiations during the past year.

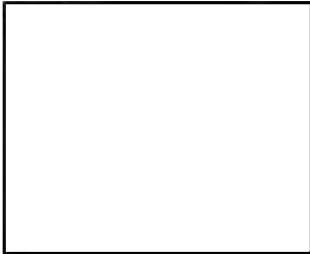
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3. SUSLOV'S TRIP TO HUNGARY MAY DETERMINE RAKOSI'S FUTURE

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The arrival of Soviet presidium member Suslov in Budapest on 7 June coincides with a Hungarian central committee meeting reportedly convoked to discuss the problem of party factionalism. Suslov

may be on a mission to settle Hungarian party first secretary Rakosi's future position. Suslov is believed to be responsible for relations with foreign Communist parties and reportedly was present at the Bulgarian central committee plenum which ousted Chervenkov. Rakosi, like Chervenkov, has been a target of Tito's criticism.

Rakosi has apparently retained power in the face of strong internal opposition only through open Soviet endorsement. His continued inability to cope with factionalism, and possibly demands by Tito in Moscow, may have forced a change in Soviet plans.

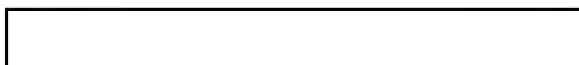
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4. JAPANESE EXTEND LIMITED RECOGNITION TO SOVIET MISSION

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The Japanese government has granted Soviet mission chief Sergei Tikhvinsky "limited recognition" as Moscow's official representative in fishery matters

only. Tikhvinsky's reported acceptance of this status will open the way for the Japanese fishing fleet to obtain Soviet licenses for operation in Soviet restricted waters beginning 15 June, but it merely defers settlement of the larger question of relations with the USSR.

Japan, under the terms of the fishery pacts recently concluded in Moscow, is committed to restore diplomatic relations with the USSR. The principal political conflict which has developed in Tokyo centers on timing and method for resuming relations--whether to adopt the Adenauer formula of an immediate exchange of diplomats without a peace treaty or to attempt to negotiate a treaty.

Unexpected opposition within the government party, arising primarily from the former Yoshida faction, appears to have convinced the Hatoyama government that a drive for immediate relations might split the party. The cabinet decision to continue to seek a treaty and not abandon Japan's claims to the Southern Kurils apparently was made in recognition of popular coolness toward "selling territory for fish."

Prime Minister Hatoyama's faction has deferred the Japanese-Soviet issue until after the upper house elections in early July. Most Japanese, however, regard the resumption of diplomatic relations as inevitable.

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**6. ASSASSINATION THREAT REPORTEDLY CAUSED RHEE
TO CANCEL ADDRESS**

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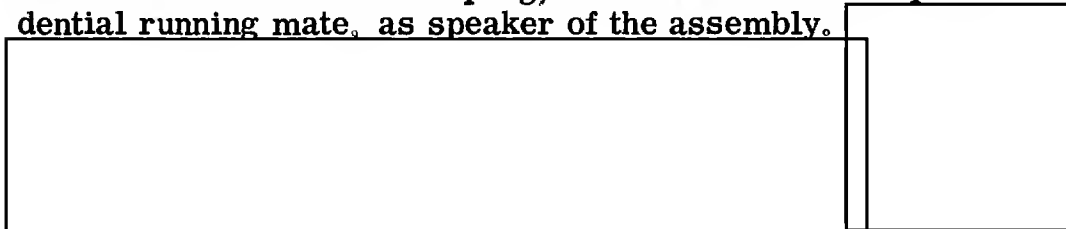
President Rhee failed to make his scheduled Memorial Day address on 6 June, reportedly because he had received information that he and Assembly Speaker Yi Ki-pung were in danger of assassination.

Comment

President Rhee's action reflects the atmosphere of tension which has prevailed in South Korea since the election. Vice-President-elect Chang Myon is also reported being heavily guarded.

Opposition assemblymen have demanded an investigation into the alleged use of bribes to secure the re-election on 8 June of Yi Ki-pung, Rhee's defeated vice-presidential running mate, as speaker of the assembly.

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THE ARAB-ISRAELI SITUATION
(Information as of 1700, 8 June)

Israel has made an official protest to the UN Security Council over Egypt's continued blockade of the Suez Canal. The Israeli delegate to the UN stated that Egyptian authorities were detaining a Greek ship, the Panngia, which was bound from Haifa to the Gulf of Aqaba port of Eilat. The delegate said that this was of "special gravity at a time when the Security Council has just reaffirmed once again the need to re-establish full compliance with the general armistice agreements." Last February Israel imposed censorship on reports of Egyptian detention of another Greek ship on a similar trip, apparently to avoid an international political debate on the blockade at that time. This protest suggests that Israel, which indicated dissatisfaction with the recent Security Council resolution, intends to try to keep the Arabs on the defensive diplomatically and to continue to press for a settlement of the basic problems left unsettled by the Hammar-skjold mission.

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